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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Application Serial No:** 09/996,658      **Confirmation No.:** 5256  
**Date Filed:** November 29, 2001  
**Application Title:** Methods And Compositions For Sorting And/Or  
Determining Organisms  
**Applicants:** Coull et al.  
**Group Art Unit:** 1634  
**Examiner:** Bradley L. Sisson  
**Action Date:** April 20, 2005  
**Action Type:** Second Office Action On Merits - FINAL

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**Certificate of Mailing Pursuant to:**  
**37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile deposited (Fax No. 571-273-8300): Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005.



Brian D. Gildea  
Reg. No. 39,995

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**Reply To Office Action w/ Integrated Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Dear Sir or Madam:

A petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for an automatic two-month extension of time to reply to the present office action has been included with the papers accompanying this submission so please consider the following response to the Office Action mailed on April 20, 2005.